

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 NIC-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /043 W

----- 096967

R 101825Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9465

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 5928

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1957

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT (IANNONE, PASQUALE)

SUBJECT: IANNONE VIEWS ON UNION UNITY

REF: ROME 1840

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. PASQUALE IANNONE, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE Cisl MINORITY, HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT POSITIONS RECENTLY ADOPTED BY UIL CHIEF VANNI MAY WORK TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE Cisl MINORITY LED BY VITO SCALIA. HE FEARS THAT A POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE FEDERATION CGIL-Cisl-UIL (CCU) BY THE UIL WOULD SERVE TO ATTRACT TO IT A NUMBER OF Cisl AFFILIATES NOW ASSOCIATED WITH THE Cisl MINORITY. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING A CALL BY AN EMBASSY OFFICER TO DISCUSS Cisl RAILWAY WORKER CHIEF PASQUALE IANNONE'S PLANS FOR ATTENDING THE 1975 CONVENTION OF THE AFL-CIO BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY WORKERS (HE PLANS TO ATTEND), IANNONE EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS ON THE UNION UNITY QUESTION. HE BELIEVES THE Cisl MINORITY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 13-15 (SEE REFTel) WILL RESULT IN A DECISION TO WORK FROM WITHIN AGAINST FURTHER CONSOLIDATION OF THE CGIL-Cisl-UIL (CCU) FEDERATION. HE DOES NOT RPT NOT THINK
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THE Cisl MINORITY WILL DECIDE AT THIS TIME TO SECEDE AND

ESTABLISH A NEW CONFEDERATION.

3. IANNONE IS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE POSITION WHICH UIL SECRETARY GENERAL RAFFAELE VANNI APPEARS TO BE ADOPTING. IANNONE BELIEVES VANNI MAY BE PREPARING TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CCU FEDERATION NEXT MONTH WHEN MAJOR DECISIONS ON ADVANCING TOWARD LABOR UNITY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE TAKEN. REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL LEVELS (CONFEDERAL, PROVINCIAL, REGIONAL AND FACTORY) ARE TO MEET AT THE END OF MARCH IN A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED ACHIEVEMENT OF FULL UNITY BY 1977. VANNI HAS GONE ON RECORD OPPOSING ANY FURTHER STEPS TOWARD LABOR UNION UNITY AND, DEPENDING ON THE OUTCOME OF THE MARCH MEETING, MAY WITHDRAW ENTIRELY FROM THE CCU. ACCORDING TO IANNONE, AN EVENTUAL DECISION BY VANNI TO LEAVE THE CCU WOULD PROVOKE THE CISL MAJORITY TO UNITE IMMEDIATELY WITH THE CGIL. FURTHER, MOST OPPONENTS OF LABOR UNITY WOULD JOIN AN ENLARGED UIL. THIS, FROM IANNONE'S PERSPECTIVE AS A PARTISAN OF VITO SCALIA, WOULD LEAVE LITTLE ROOM FOR MANEUVER BY CATHOLIC OPPONENTS TO CGIL DOMINANCE IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME01957
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-0631
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750257/aaaabzaj.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ROME 1840
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IANNONE VIEWS ON UNION UNITY
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT, (IANNONE, PASQUALE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006